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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE TRADEMARK TRIAL AND APPEAL BOAR!

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·	06-06-2002 —
LEBANESE ARAK CORPORATION,) U.S. Patent & TMOfc/TM Mail Reg
Opposer,) Opposition No. 123,764
v.)
KEYSAR NASR,) Mark: GANTOUS & ABOU RAAPS) Serial No.: 76/040417
Applicant.))))
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REQUEST ON CONSENT FOR SUSPENSION OF PROCEEDINGS PENDING OUTCOME OF SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS

Opposer Lebanese Arak Corporation ("Opposer"), by and through its attorneys, Sheldon & Mak, hereby requests a suspension of the instant proceedings pending the outcome of settlement discussions aimed at resolving the disputes regarding the above registration for application.

ARGUMENT

The Rules of Practice in Trademark Cases provide that <u>inter</u> <u>partes</u> proceedings may be suspended "for good cause" upon motion of the parties approved by the Board. Trademark Rule 2.117(c); <u>see also MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. v. Arrow-M Corp.</u>, 203 U.S.P.Q. 952 (TTAB 1979).

Here, Applicant and Opposer have been engaged in settlement discussions regarding the above-listed application for registration and the parties expect that they will be able to resolve their differences amicably. A suspension of the instant proceeding will permit the parties to focus on ways to resolve their differences, while at the same time avoid the expense and the disruption to their businesses which will result from going forward with the instant proceeding. This will enhance the prospects for an amicable resolution of the dispute.

Prior to filing the instant motion, counsel for Applicant and counsel for Opposer discussed the instant proceeding and, inasmuch as a settlement of the proceeding appears likely, agreed that a suspension is appropriate. They further agreed that, in the unlikely event the settlement was not effected within six (6) months, the proceedings would be resumed, discovery would be reopened, and the testimony and trial periods would be re-set.

A copy of the instant motion is being served upon Opposer through its counsel.

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CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, the Board should suspend this proceeding for a period of six (6) months for the purpose of permitting the parties to engage in settlement negotiations, subject to the right of either party to request resumption at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorneys for Opposer Lebanese Arak Corporation

Dated: June 6 .

EXPRESS MAIL mailing label no. EV 135610359 US Date of Deposit: June 6, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: BOX TTAB, NO FEE, Assistant Commissioner For Trademarks, 2900 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22202-3513

Christina Champagne

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing REQUEST ON CONSENT FOR SUSPENSION OF PROCEEDINGS

PENDING OUTCOME OF SETTLEMENT DISCUSSIONS was served on the attorneys for Applicant Keysar Nasr this 6th day of June, 2002 by enclosing the same in an envelope and sending it via first-class U.S. mail, postage prepaid to:

Candace Lynn Bell, Esq. Kavinoky & Cook, LLP 120 Delaware Avenue Buffalo, New York 14202

Christina Champagne



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Attention: Docketing